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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1

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INTRODUCTION: There has been a considerably greater number of monitored Soviet-Communist comments during approximately the past 24 hours than at any time since the North Korean invaders launched their attacks. Most important, however, is the greater frequency and intensity of statements which appear to reflect an attitude of increasing threat and belligerence and an increased expectation of general war. Whether or not these statements are functions of definite Soviet-Communist intentions in the operation field (as distinct from the field of propaganda), they do suggest a more direct effort to prepare the Communist world for warlike eventualities. On the other hand, they may be related primarily to the fearmongering purposes that are implicit in a war of nerves. Side by side with such statements, Soviet-Communist propaganda continues to plug the "peace campaign"; but even here, the issue of American "aggression" against Korea is emphasized as something the "peace partisans" must fight. In effect, the "peace campaign" is now as much concerned with mobilizing opinion specifically against this "aggression"--"hands off Korea"--as it is with arousing antagonism toward America's "aggressive, war-preparing policy" in general and with securing signatures to the Stockholm "Peace" Appeal.

PSYCHOLOGICAL MOBILIZATION IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD? FEARMONGERING: Evidences of propagandistic counter-threats and belligerence toward the American "aggressors" and of concern with the possibility of general war come from diverse sources in the Communist world, as listed below.

The Possibility of War

A Soviet-controlled Berlin commentator says that the answer to the question of whether or not war is "inevitable" depends on the "people." If it depended on Truman, etc.,

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"the war would have started long ago." The only thing that has prevented it to date has been the "powerful growth of the peace movement." But the commentator warns that "nearly all of us... have underrated the gravity of the threat of war. This underestimation... is undoubtedly due to an underestimate of the aggressive character of U.S. imperialism. The important thing now is to correct this fault as quickly and as radically as possible."

According to Radio Rome, Togliatti has written a UNITA article which, "based on obscure promises,... asserts that the state of affairs implies that the third world war has begun. But he does not enlarge the theme."

A Radio Sofia report of the Bulgarian ceremonies marking the anniversary of Dimitrov's death quotes the address by Bulgarian Communist leader Zhivkov, who implicitly poses the possibility of war in the following terms: "If... the Anglo-U.S. imperialists do not form a correct and sober estimate of the international situation (related to Korea) and try to unleash a new war...." (See section on "counter-threats," below, for his answer.)

A similar implication is contained in a Radio Budapest commentary which, in the context of attention to the Korean situation, considers the question of what will happen "if the peoples must shed their blood,... if the imperialists violate peace...." (See section on "counter-threats," below, for his answer.)

Soviet commentator Kudriavtsev charges that the Americans exploited their occupation of South Korea "for turning it... into a military bridgehead for attacks against northern Korea, into a base for aggression against the USSR and China." (It should be noted that Soviet propaganda has quite frequently charged that the Americans were preparing bordering "bridgeheads" against the USSR and its Satellites. But Kudriavtsev is the first Soviet commentator to have repeated this charge in discussions of the present Korean situation.)

The Soviet-controlled Leipzig radio quotes the Communist leader Ulbricht as "demanding the intensification of the enlightenment campaign for peace in view of the U.S. intervention in Korea" and as "attacking the agents of U.S. monopoly capitalism who... are trying to incite to war in the territory of the German Democratic Republic." (And in connection with Ulbricht's charge that U.S. imperialism is "preparing another war," he advises that "the SED should make every effort to prevent a new era of hostility between Germany and the People's Democracies.")

Another Leipzig broadcast, charging that the "U.S. imperialists are employing the same tactics against the Korean people as they employed against the German civilian population in the last war," declares that "they would not hesitate in the least to do the same again toward the German civilians."

A Prague radio attack against American "aggression in Korea" cites the "Western use of the Colorado beetle" against Czechoslovakia as "an act of war and no longer cold war."

Counter-Threats

TASS, reporting Soviet protest meetings and "demands that the American aggressors be curbed," quotes a statement by a Soviet worker to the effect that "the camp of peace is strong enough to check the aggressor, the initiator of a new world war." And in the same dispatch, TASS reports that in conjunction with their demands for the "cessation of the armed intervention of the Anglo-American imperialists in Korean affairs" workers in Moscow's motor-cycle factory resolved that they will strengthen still more the might of the Soviet State which marches in the van of the struggle for peace." A Soviet-controlled Berlin commentator "does not doubt for a moment that the power of resistance of the Korean people and of all peace-loving people in the world by their side will succeed in warding off the threat to peace in East Asia." (The strength of the "camp of peace" has of course long been a favorite Soviet-Communist propaganda theme. But it has always involved the concept of some kind of "struggle" against and conflict with the "imperialist camp." And the French Communist HUMANITE's recent direct contention that the North Koreans are fighting for "peace" indicates that the slogan "the camp of peace against the aggressor" may also be used by Moscow in the event of expectations of general war.)

The above-mentioned Budapest commentator declares that "the peoples want peace," but

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that "if they must shed their blood, they are bound to do so only against the imperialists for the cause of peace and liberty. Imperialists violate peace.... they are bound to suffer defeat and to perish."

Bulgarian Communist leader Zhivkov voices Bulgaria's solidarity with the "Korean people" and declares that the peoples in defense of peace will make the "criminal plans of the imperialists collapse." But if the Anglo-American imperialists do not correctly estimate the international situation and try to unleash a third world war, "millions of simple people led by the USSR and the Soviet army will give such a decisive and destructive answer that the war begun by them will be, as Malenkov warned, 'a grave not only for certain capitalist countries but for all world capitalism.'" (The Soviet radio has frequently used the indicated quotation from Malenkov's speech on the occasion of the most recent anniversary of the October Revolution. But this is the first time that a monitored Communist source has used it in the context of attention to the international situation resulting from events in Korea. Also noteworthy is that by explicitly referring to "millions of simple people led by the USSR and the Soviet army," it goes beyond Malenkov, who did not make such an explicit identification.)

Following his reference to the "grave of capitalism," Zhivkov attacks the "miserable lackeys of U.S. imperialism in the Balkans"--namely, the Tite clique, the Greek monarcho-fascists, and particularly the "Turkish reactionary leaders" who "recently made an attempt to infiltrate a group of Turkish spies and subversive agents into Bulgarian territory."

A Polish broadcast, comparing the USSR's "brotherly assistance to Poland" with "the invasion by U.S. imperialism of the Korean Republic," concludes: "Two facts! Two ideologies! And two worlds! Nobody can have any doubt which of these ideologies will be chosen by the people and which of the two worlds will be victorious."

MORE TYPICAL SOVIET-COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA LINES: It should be pointed out that the above-cited statements are not typical of the bulk of Soviet-Communist propaganda. Because of their combined appearance almost overnight, however, it was felt that they justified fairly detailed presentation here. More common to all Communist sources is the reiterated theme that the U.S. "aggression" followed a long and deliberate series of preparations therefor. There are increasingly frequent references to the North Korean military successes despite American efforts, and to the ultimate victory of the North Korean Communists. Practically all Communist sources play up the allegedly worldwide protest against the American "aggression." Moscow especially attempts to put across the idea that the masses of the world are uniting behind the slogan, "hands off Korea." This slogan is featured repeatedly in the vast volume of propaganda around the current USSR drive for signatures to the Stockholm "Peace" Appeal and TASS bulletins report that it is being taken up by workers throughout the world. Communist sources also publicize the alleged atrocities being committed by American aircraft in their "deliberate" bombings of innocent Korean civilians, women, children, and elders. And there are continued references to the illegality of the U.N. Security Council's resolutions.

WESTERN-ORIENTED COMMENT: Western-oriented sources continue to express approval of the President's decisions. Britain's SUNDAY DISPATCH, for example, carried a Vansittart-authored article entitled, "Thank God for Truman." There is still not a great deal of comment on the progress of the fighting. The French news agency, AFP, reports that the French public "is absolutely calm over events in Korea" and has adjusted itself to the idea of a "long-drawn-out operation." The Berne radio quotes a Swiss paper to the effect that Korea "is a clear example of how even the most powerful assistance offered to a small country which is attacked by an unscrupulous aggressor usually comes rather late, often too late"; the moral is that Switzerland should devote attention to its own national defense. Britain's THE PEOPLE considers that the shortage of American and other U.N. combat troops in Korea represents the most critical problem. Speculations about future Soviet policy and actions continue to appear. They range from concern about the possible role that may be assigned to the Chinese Communists, through the belief that "it may suit Russia best to work for a long-drawn-out struggle... which can be used as a theme for propaganda," to the fear that if there is a long-drawn-out struggle "Russian undercover aid could pin down ever-increasing numbers of American and other Western forces in the Korean operations, thus making it possible for Russia and Red China to strike elsewhere against the depleted Western forces." There are also continued allusions to the need for American occupation forces to remain in countries now occupied so that the Korean situation will not be repeated elsewhere.

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